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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJECT Airfields at Baranovichi

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1. An about 5,000 x 6,000-foot airfield was located southeast of BARANOVICHI ( $26^{\circ}3'3/4^{\circ}8'N$ ), between the LAKHOVICH (26°16'3/4°53'N)-SLUTSK (27°33'3/4°53'1'N) arterial road and the single-tracked railroad line to LUNINETS ( $26^{\circ}43'3/4^{\circ}52'14'N$ ), about 2,500 feet from the BARANOVICHI railroad station. The western section of the airfield area was wooded.

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2. The field was occupied by about 30 U-2s in 1947.

3. Several hangars were under construction on the airfield south or southeast of BARANOVICHI. The field had boundary lights.

4. There was day and night flying with individual fighters (low-wing monoplane, in-line engine, landing gear and nose wheel retractable, antenna rod aft of cockpit, similar to the Me-109).

5. A small auxiliary airfield was located about ½ mile south of the field. Flying with seven or eight U-2s was practiced there.

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6. The about 11,500-foot square airfield on the southern edge of BARANOVICHI was occupied by about three hundred fighters. Fellow PWS, former air force soldiers, said the aircraft were Yak-9s.

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7. There was intensive all weather flying. Individual and formation flying of up to twenty-five planes, serial combat, and firing at sleeve targets were practiced. 25X1X

8. The large military airfield south of BARANOVICHI was heavily damaged. The two hangars were destroyed. The hangars and the landing field were being rebuilt by PWS. Gravel had been trucked to the airfield since the summer of 1947. Concrete mixers were set up in March 1947. Concrete work has been done on the landing field since early 1948. Part of the airfield was surrounded by woods.

9. According to fellow PWS, many camouflaged twin-engine bombers were parked at the field. There was little flying. The aircraft engines were occasionally tested.

10. Single-engine fighters have been also stationed at the airfield since 1946. Source personally observed daily stunt flying and firing at sleeve targets.

11. Routine parachuting from biplanes over the airfield was seen.

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